

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A movable body rental system, comprising:including

a plurality of movable body apparatuses; and

a movable body management apparatus, ~~wherein said movable body management apparatus operable to manages said plurality of movable body apparatuses; and wherein~~

each one of said plurality of movable body apparatuses comprisesincluding:

authentication information transmission means for transmitting authentication information to said movable body management apparatus, +

authentication result information reception means for receiving authentication result information ~~returned from said movable body management apparatus in response to said transmitting of the authentication information,~~ +

lock means for preventing use of a ~~that~~ movable body apparatus, +

lock control means for controlling said lock means based on said the received authentication result information, ~~received by said authentication result information reception means,~~

distance measuring means for measuring a distance traveled by that movable body apparatus, ~~mileage,~~

distance information transmission means for transmitting information indicating said ~~mileage~~ the measured by said distance measuring means to said movable body management apparatus, +

time measuring means for measuring a driving time associated with the measured distance, the driving time being the time taken to travel the measured

distance and being measured while that movable body apparatus is moving, and

time information transmission means for transmitting information indicating ~~said the measured driving time measured by said time measuring means to said movable body management apparatus,~~ and wherein said movable body management apparatus comprises including:

authentication information reception means for receiving ~~said the~~ authentication information from said movable body apparatus,

authentication result information transmission means for transmitting ~~said the~~ authentication result information corresponding to ~~said the received authentication information received by said authentication information reception means to said~~ movable body apparatus,

distance information reception means for receiving, from said movable body apparatus, the information indicating the measured distance, ~~said mileage from said movable body apparatus,~~

time information reception means for receiving, from said movable body apparatus, the information indicating said the measured driving time, ~~from said movable body apparatus,~~

fee calculation means for calculating a fee for use of said movable body apparatus, ~~according to said mileage received by said the fee being based on the measured distance information reception means and said on a time difference between an average driving time required to travel the measured distance and the measured driving time,~~ ~~received by said time information reception means,~~ and

settlement means for performing settlement processing ~~according to use of said movable body apparatus based on a result of said fee~~ the calculated ~~edion fe~~ means.

2. (currently amended) The movable body rental system according to claim 1, wherein said each movable body apparatus further comprises:

payable information acceptance means for accepting payable information, ~~wherein~~ said authentication information transmission means ~~transmittings~~ said the accepted payable information ~~accepted by said payable information acceptance means as said the~~ authentication information to said authentication information reception means of said movable body management apparatus, and ~~wherein~~ said lock control means ~~controllings~~ said lock means to release a lock mechanism when ~~receiving~~ permission information based on said authentication result information is received by said authentication result information reception means from said authentication result information transmission means of said movable body management apparatus, and wherein said movable body management apparatus further comprises:

determination means for determining whether payment is possible based on ~~said the~~ payable information received as ~~said the~~ authentication information ~~by said authentication information reception means from said authentication information transmission means of said movable body apparatus, wherein~~ said authentication result information transmission means ~~transmittings~~ said the permission information as ~~said the~~ authentication result information to said authentication result information reception means of said movable body apparatus, when said determination means determines that payment is possible.

3. (currently amended) The movable body rental system according to claim 2, wherein said movable body management apparatus further comprises:

authentication request reception means for receiving an authentication request, ~~wherein said authentication request which includes user identification information about a user that is~~ transmitted by a mobile communication terminal of ~~said~~ a user of said movable body apparatus, ~~+~~ and

authentication processing means for performing authentication processing based on ~~said~~ the received user identification information ~~included in said authentication request received by said authentication request reception means, wherein~~

said authentication result information transmission means of said movable body management apparatus ~~transmittings~~ said ~~the~~ permission information based on results determined by said authentication processing means and said determination means.

4. (currently amended) The movable body rental system according to claim 1, wherein said movable body management apparatus further comprises:

authentication request reception means for receiving an authentication request, ~~wherein said authentication request which includes user identification information about a user that is~~ transmitted by a mobile communication terminal of ~~said~~ a user of said movable body apparatus, ~~+~~ and

authentication processing means for performing authentication processing based on ~~said~~ the received user identification information ~~included in said authentication request received by said authentication request reception means, wherein~~

said authentication result information transmission means of said movable body management apparatus ~~transmittings~~ the permission information based on results determined by said authentication processing means.

5. (currently amended) The movable body rental system according to claim 1, wherein said fee calculation means of said movable body management apparatus determines ~~said~~ the fee based on a ~~position~~ location where said movable body apparatus is returned.

6. (currently amended) The movable body rental system according to claim 5, wherein said fee calculation means of said movable body management apparatus sets a higher fee when said movable body apparatus is returned to a ~~position~~ location different ~~from~~ than a predetermined return ~~position~~ location than when ~~it~~ said movable body apparatus is returned to said predetermined return ~~position~~ location.

7. - 21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) A movable body apparatus ~~in~~ of a movable body rental system ~~comprising~~ that includes a plurality of such movable body apparatuses and a movable body management apparatus, ~~wherein~~ said movable body management apparatus manages said plurality of movable body apparatuses, and ~~wherein~~ said movable body apparatus comprises:

authentication information transmission means for transmitting authentication information to ~~said~~ the movable body management apparatus;

authentication result information reception means for receiving authentication result information ~~returned from~~ the movable body management apparatus in response to said transmitting of the authentication information;

lock means for preventing use of said movable body apparatus;

lock control means for controlling said lock means based on said—the received authentication result information—received by said authentication result information reception means;

distance measuring means for measuring a distance traveled by said movable body apparatus mileage;

distance information transmission means for transmitting, to said movable body management apparatus, information indicating said mileage—the measured by said distance measuring means to said movable body management apparatus;

time measuring means for measuring a driving time associated with the measured distance, the driving time being the time taken to travel the measured distance and being measured while said movable body apparatus is moving; and

time information transmission means for transmitting, to said movable body management apparatus, information indicating said—the measured driving time so that said movable body management apparatus calculates a fee for use of said movable body apparatus, the fee being based on the measured distance and on a time difference between an average driving time required to travel the measured distance and the measured driving time—measured by said time measuring means to said movable body management apparatus.

23. (currently amended) The movable body apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising:

payable information acceptance means for accepting payable information, wherein

said authentication information transmission means transmittings said—the accepted payable information accepted by said payable information acceptance means as said authentication information to authentication

information reception means of ~~said—the~~ movable body management apparatus, and wherein

said lock control means ~~controllings~~ said lock means to release a lock mechanism when ~~receiving~~ permission information based on ~~said—the~~ authentication result information is received by said authentication result information reception means from authentication result information transmission means of ~~said—the~~ movable body management apparatus.

24. - 25. (cancelled)

26. (currently amended) A movable body management apparatus ~~in of~~ a movable body rental system that includes a plurality of movable body apparatuses and a ~~said~~ movable body management apparatus, ~~wherein—~~said movable body management apparatus ~~managinges~~ ~~said—the~~ plurality of movable body apparatuses, and ~~wherein—~~said movable body management apparatus comprisinges:

authentication information reception means for receiving authentication information from a given one of the plurality of movable body apparatuses;

authentication result information transmission means for transmitting authentication result information corresponding to ~~said—the~~ received authentication information ~~received by said authentication information reception means to said—the~~ given movable body apparatus;

distance information reception means for receiving, ~~information indicating a mileage from said—the~~ given one of the plurality of movable body apparatuses, information indicating a measured distance traveled by the given one of the plurality of apparatuses;

time information reception means for receiving, ~~information indicating a driving time from the given one of the plurality of movable body apparatuses~~, a driving time

associated with the measured distance, the driving time being the time taken to travel the measured distance and being measured while the given one of the plurality of apparatuses is moving;

fee calculation means for calculating a fee for use of the given one of the plurality of movable body apparatuses, ~~according to said mileage received by said the fee being based on the measured distance information reception means and said on a time difference between an average driving time required to travel the measured distance and the measured driving time received by said time information reception means;~~ and

settlement means for performing settlement processing ~~according to use of said movable body apparatus based on a result of said fee the calculated~~ on the fee.

27. (currently amended) The movable body management apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising:

determination means for determining whether payment is possible based on payable information received as ~~said the authentication information by said authentication information reception means from authentication information transmission means of said the given one of the plurality of movable body apparatuses~~, wherein

said authentication result information transmission means ~~transmittings~~ permission information as ~~said the authentication result information to authentication result information reception means of the given one of the plurality of movable body apparatuses~~, when said determination means determines that payment is possible.

28. (currently amended) The movable body management apparatus according to claim 27, further comprising:

authentication request reception means for receiving an authentication request, ~~wherein said authentication~~

~~request~~ which includes user identification information
~~about a user that is~~ transmitted by a mobile communication
terminal of ~~said a user of said~~ the given one of the
plurality of movable body apparatuses, and

authentication processing means for performing
authentication processing based on ~~said the~~ identification
information ~~included in said authentication request~~
~~received by said authentication request reception means,~~
wherein

said authentication result information transmission
means ~~transmittings~~ said permission information based on
results determined by said authentication processing means
and said determination means.

29. (currently amended) The movable body management
apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising:

authentication request reception means for receiving
an authentication request, ~~wherein authentication request~~
which includes user identification information about a user
transmitted by a mobile communication terminal of ~~said a~~
user of said movable body apparatus; and

authentication processing means for performing
authentication processing based on ~~said the~~ identification
information ~~included in said authentication request~~
~~received by said authentication request reception means,~~
wherein

said authentication result information transmission
means ~~transmittings~~ permission information based on results
determined by said authentication processing means.

30. (currently amended) The movable body management
apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said fee calculation
means determines ~~said the~~ fee based on a position location where
said movable body apparatus is returned.

31. (currently amended) The movable body management apparatus according to claim 30, wherein said fee calculation means sets a higher fee when said movable body apparatus is returned to a ~~position~~location different from ~~than~~ a predetermined return position than when ~~it~~said movable body apparatus is returned to said predetermined return ~~position~~location.

32. - 126. (cancelled)